

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-07 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /080 W
----- 129774

R 040616Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0765

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 2528

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, FI, SU

SUBJECT: SOVIET EMISSARY CONSULTS GOF ON CSCE

REF: HELSINKI 2464

1. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED FROM MFA THAT SOVIET UNION CSCE EXPERT AND SPECIAL AMBASSADOR MENDELEYVICH WAS IN HELSINKI DEC 2-3 CONSULTING WITH GOF ON CSCE MATTERS. MENDELEYVICH REPORTEDLY DESCRIBED HIS VISIT AS THE FIRST STOP ON A NEW ROUND OF CSCE DISCUSSIONS.

2. ACCORDING TO MFA SOURCE, DURING THE CONVERSATIONS MENDELEYVICH INDICATED SOVIET UNION STILL THINKING IN TERMS OF A SHORT BELGRADE MEETING WITHOUT FORMATION OF WORKING GROUPS AND WITHOUT FINAL STATEMENT. HOWEVER, AMBASSADOR MENDELEYVICH EMPHASIZED THAT SOVIET UNION HAS NO FIXED POSITION AS YET CONCERNING BELGRADE. FINNS RECEIVED CLEAR IMPRESSION SOVIET UNION WILL MAKE NO EFFORT TO DELAY OR AVOID BELGRADE MEETING.

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3. MFA OFFICIALS REPORTEDLY GAVE SOVIET EMISSARY

THEIR CURRENT THINKING ON CSCE AND BELGRADE, WHICH EMBASSY
WILL REPORT IN SUBSEQUENT MESSAGE.

4. ACCORDING TO MFA SOURCE, MFA OFFICIALS INFORMED
MENDELEYVICH FULLY ON RECENT US CSCE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN
FASCELL'S VISIT TO HELSINKI, EMPHASIZING THAT THEY WERE
IMPRESSED WITH CONSTRUCTIVE NATURE OF COMMISSION'S VIEWS
OF ITS RESPONSIBILITIES. THEY TOLD MENDELEYVICH THAT THE
US COMMISSION INDICATED IT DOES NOT PLAN TO FOCUS ITS
ATTENTION ON ONLY ONE COUNTRY OR ONE BASKET, BUT RATHER
INTENDS TO BE EVEN-HANDED AND OBJECTIVE. MENDELEYVICH
REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN FINNS' ASSESSMENT OF
US CSCE COMMISSION, BUT REITERATED THAT SOVIET UNION
HAD BEEN CORRECT IN REFUSING VISAS TO COMMISSION MEMBERS
ON GROUNDS THAT THEIR VISIT WOULD BE INTERFERENCE IN
INTERNAL SOVIET UNION AFFAIRS.

5. MENDELEYVICH ALSO REPORTEDLY ASKED FOR GOF REACTION
TO WARSAW PACT PROPOSAL THAT CSCE SIGNATORIES RENOUNCE
FIRST USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. MFA REPORTEDLY DECLINED
TO COMMENT ON GROUNDS IT HAD NOT HAD TIME TO STUDY
PROPOSAL.

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